

# The King's Highway.

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness.

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness—Isa. 35-8.

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## HOLINESS—ITS NECESSITY.

It is necessary. 1. To meet God's ideal—as shown in His command, "Be ye holy" (1 Pet. 1:16). The command to be holy is as binding as is the command to repent, and no amount of sacrifice or church activity will be accepted as a substitute for holiness. Man's plan is to "do" (good works). King Saul tried to substitute sacrifice for obedience and he is still paying a fearful price for his temerity.

2. As shown in God's choice. "According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love" (Eph. 1:4). God could not have consistently chosen anything less than holiness for me and I dare not choose less, for that is rebellion.

3. As shown in His will. "This is the will of God, even your sanctification" (1 Thess. 4:3). Not only has He chosen it for us, but provides the means to make us holy. We have an inheritance in Him, Eph. 1:11, and He has an inheritance in the saints, a mutual affair. Holiness is our legacy. Thank God. Let us enter upon our inheritance. Many sons and daughters of God today are not actually possessing their inheritance. A man must be a son before he can be an heir; he must know his legacy before he asks for it; he must voluntarily receive it before he possesses it.

4. As shown in the provision made. "Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood suffered without the gate" (Luke 1:74, 75). "Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it" (Eph. 5:25, 26).

5. As revealed in the prayer of the Spirit. "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly" (1 Thess. 5:23). This is one of the many inspired prayers of the Bible, and while uttered by Paul, it voices the desire of the Holy Ghost.

6. As revealed in the prayer of Jesus. "Sanctify them through Thy truth" (John 17:17). In Luke 23:34 is the prayer of Jesus for sinners, that they might be forgiven. But in John 17:17 the prayer is for the church; for those "who are not of the world," John 17:16, that they might be sanctified. So if the Holy Spirit and Jesus are praying that I might be sanctified, and I pray for it, the outlook is good that I will surely get the blessing. Amen.

7. As shown in God's call. "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness" (1 Thess. 4:7). There are various calls mentioned in the Bible, the sinner to repentance, the Christian to service, the call from the air to meet Him, the call to judgment, etc. But in the above passage He calls to holiness.

Holiness is necessary to efficiency.

Listen! They are having a testimony meeting in B. C. 758. Isaiah is testifying. He knew when it took place. "It was in the year that King Uzziah died." He tells us he got a vision of God's glory, and then as always happens, he got another vision. He saw the ground work of his own heart, the Old Man working there, and he cried, "Woe is me, because I am a man of unclean lips." If a man's words are not always clean and chaste, it is because his heart has uncleanness in it. Mark 7:21, 22. When he made his confession the remedy was soon applied, his iniquity was taken away and his sin (nature) purged. Now we see how this qualified him to say, "Here am I, send me," when God called for volunteers. So essential are holiness and baptism with the Spirit that Jesus commanded the disciples, "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49); and in Acts 15:8, 9, Peter tells us their hearts were purified by faith. Abrahams and Davids are needed today to recover the souls taken captive by the devil. Gen. 14:12 and 1 Sam. 30:1-19.

Holiness is needed for complete union. John 17:17-23. Three important things are spoken of in these verses: (1) "sanctify them," in order (2) "that they may be one," in order (3) "that the world might believe." The late war furnished the world a very comprehensive argument of the value of unity. When General Foch was placed in supreme command so that the Allied armies were welded into one great fighting machine, the war was soon won. Now as long as the church and conference are split up into factions, the devil can handle each faction with comparative ease. But when she is united on Bible lines, then she is terrible as "an army with banners," and the gates of hell shall not prevail against her. Neither organic union or church federation will answer. There are two ways of uniting two pieces of iron—one by bolts and

rivets and the other by welding. Church federation is but bolts and bars and at best is faulty. The baptism with fire welds the church into a mighty army. Holiness unites, sin divides. When we are really united the world will take us seriously.

Holiness is necessary for first resurrection honors. "And he shall send His angels \* \* \* and they shall gather together His elect" (Matt. 24:31.) Here is a special class called the elect who are destined to gracious honors, being caught up in the air. 1 Thess. 4:17. The question is, who are the elect, and how are they elected? Originally, the elect referred to the Jew. But in the New Testament the scope widens. So let the Bible answer this question: "Elect \* \* \* through sanctification of the Spirit" (1 Pet. 1:2). So Jesus says He will send forth His angels and gather together the sanctified. Lord, help us to be in that happy host. This is in harmony with Rev. 20:5, 6. After mentioning the chaining of Satan, and the living and reigning of the martyrs, He says, "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection." So reader, seek the cleansing blood if you would be ready when Jesus comes.

Holiness is the indispensable passport into heaven. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14). A German brother once told me that this word "follow" in the German Bible is "yawget," and means to follow in a hurry, like a man would go for the doctor if his child had the croup. There will be no getting into heaven without holiness. So reader, whatever your views on holiness may be, make certain you have the experience, and be in a hurry about it. A man's theory is apt to affect his experience, so if his theory is wrong his experience is likely to be defective. It would be a calamity to miss heaven, just for the empty honor of defending a wrong theory. So be careful. God bless you.—T. D. Day, in Christian Conservator.

"As well expect a tree to thrive on last year's sap as for a Christian to live on old experience."